

Song of the Taste

by Gary Snyder

Eating the living germs of grasses

Eating the ova of large birds

the fleshy sweetness packed
around the sperm of swaying trees

The muscles of the flanks and thighs of

soft-voiced cows

the bounce in the lamb's leap

the swish in the ox's tail

Eating roots grown swoll

inside the soil

Drawing on life of living

clustered points of light spun

out of space

hidden in the grape.

Eating each other's seed

eating

ah, each other.

Kissing the lover in the mouth of bread:

lip to lip.

From Regarding Wave (New Directions, 1970)